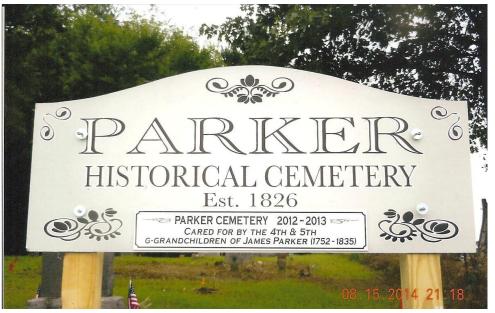
History

of the

Parker Pioneer Cemetery

Hutton Township, Coles County, Illinois



Tom and Stacy Hintz May 2023, Rev 17

## **Table of Contents**

Forward	
Cemetery	4
Similar Cemeteries	7
Access	
Topography	
Headstone Surveys	
Restoration	
Field Stone Markers	
Parkers	
James and Anna (Doty) Parker	
Cement Block	
Elizabeth Parker	
George Parker	
Anna E. Parker	
Credits and Copyright	
Appendix – Cemetery Map by David Paul Parker	

### Forward

In 1970, Stacy's aunt Vera had the good fortune to meet Alice Parker, youngest daughter of Quanah Parker. Aunt Vera had extensively researched the connection<sup>1</sup> between Elder John Parker of Coles County, Illinois, and James Parker of Crawford County, Illinois. Vera descends from James, and Quanah descends from Nathaniel's family on John's side. During her visit, Vera asked Alice to help her understand which children were by each of Quanah's wives to which Alice responded, "Why does it matter? They're family."

For many, their perspective to cemetery's are quite similar. Our ancestors are there and what more do you need to know? When graves are marked they provide valuable confirmation that a family or person lived and died in a particular place. That connection is combined with records in the area to yield a greater picture of the family and, perhaps, an insight into our

no perspective and no amount of



in the area to yield a greater picture of the *Illustration 1: Alice Purdy, Vera Jezek, Alice's nice Bobbie* family and, perhaps, an insight into our *holding her son, and Shayne Jezek holding an award of* past. Unmarked graves are lost and provide *Alice's. August 1970* 

speculation can reconcile that. In the end Alice was right: it doesn't matter because we know they are there.



*Illustration 2: Cemetery location relative to Westfield - graphic care of Dr. Di Naso.* 

<sup>1</sup> At the Parker/Ledbetter reunion in Twin Lakes, Pekin, IL, Stacy and Tom famously revealed the research done to that point and declared no connection between the two families. Betty Fox remarked, "of course it would have to be one of my children!" James David Parker later did prove through a DNA test that the two families are closely related.

Cemetery

The cemetery is located on the George Parker farm just north of the old homestead, on a hill that is one of several glacial features in the immediate vicinity. Dr. Di Naso states "Geologically, the cemetery actually rests upon what we call, a kame. This is a glacial deposit formed when a receding glacier melts, depositing a mound of detritus - generally sand, silt, gravel, cobbles, etc...or what we'd call glacial 'till'. Farmsteads are often built atop these. The Parker kame was too small for a farmhouse but ideal for a cemetery!"

George reportedly built his cabin near the cemetery in 1827 and then returned to Crawford Co., Illinois for his family. His son John A. Parker was born that year and was hauled by sled to the new cabin, arriving New Years Eve. George is often credited with starting the cemetery and considering his early arrival in the area and proximity that might be true.

According to some, the first burial was a child but no other information is given. The oldest currently documented burial is Mary E. Hutton in May 14th, 1829, and the newest is Elizabeth Ann (Jenkins) Hutton on 10<sup>th</sup> of April 1937. Use of the cemetery peaked in the 1860s and declined sharply in the mid 1880s as the use of Maple Hill in Westfield increased.

The 5 oldest birth dates of those interred are:

- 1. James Parker born 1752 (presumed buried in Parker Cemetery)
- 2. Anna (Doty) Parker born Dec 1765
- 3. Thomas Whalen born 1767
- 4. Ann (Burgess) Berkley born May 9th, 1776
- 5. James C. Gilbert born December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1780

*Illustration 3: Number of burials by year.* 

The cemetery is located at GPS coordinates 39.4320500, -88.0192200, *burials by year*. on Hutton Township section 6, township 11N, range 11E from the 3<sup>rd</sup> meridian. George bought part

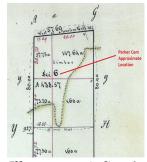
 $W2NE^2$ , 73.82 acres containing the cemetery, on January 3, 1832 directly from the US government at the land office in Palestine as recorded in document number 3167. That is over a year after the burials of George Parker's wife, Sarah, and his mother, Anna.

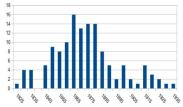
Donna Stewart of the Coles County Genealogical Society found a deed on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1843 between George Parker and his wife Elizabeth (Preston, widow of Thomas Flint) donating the cemetery to the United Baptist Church of Christ Good Hope trustees Joel Connely, William Lee and William Parker. The parcel of land was described as follows.

"a certain tract or parcel of land assignated as follows

by being part of the west half of the North East quarter of Section No six in Township No Eleven North of Range No Eleven East bounded as follows Beginning at a Stone at the South East corner of the grave yard near George Parkers thence Running west Seventeen rods<sup>3</sup> thence to Extend north in an oblong Square so as to contain one half of an acre in the abstract of land Sold at Palestine Illinois"

Notice the deed says the cemetery orientation "extends north" and it is an "oblong *Illustration 4: Sec 6, original survey.* 





<sup>2</sup> West half of the NE quarter of the section.

<sup>3</sup> A rod is 16.5 US survey feet.

not due north. Current maps do not depict a rectangle. See Field Stone Marker chapter for a picture of the stone marking the legal boundary.

David Paul Parker noted that on February 8, 1859, George sold the land to his son Jephthah as recorded in Coles County book 7, page 378. That document was filed on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 1862, several days after George's death. The document states the sale of part of the NE quarter of the section, but states

"...containing seventy-two acres (72) with the reserved one half acre for the purpose of a grave yard as already deeded it being more or less...".

According to David, Jephthah was pastor of the Good Hope Baptist Church and the cemetery was placed into its care. Good Hope relocated to Westfield, Clark County and a new building was erected. The building for that church was later sold to Martha Parker and the Baptists bought the Methodist church building and the Methodist congregation built a new building. Martha ran an antique store from the location until her death. The new owners have converted it to a home.

David Parker paid James Grant \$500 for a title search on the cemetery. James was an attorney on the Coles County Cemetery board. He retired and David only received cursory information. David understands that the Good Hope cemetery deed was transferred from the church to the Clark County trustee. It is possible that the same type of transfer was performed for the Parker Cemetery.

I have an email from Glenna Mullen that gives this additional history.

"From: t mullen [<u>tmullen@xxxx.com</u>] Sent: Wednesday, August 27, 1997 6:35 PM To: Tom Hintz Subject: PARKER CEMETERY and other information/questions

...I had sent months ago info. to Linda Lang that a perpetual care fund had been established at one of the banks either Coles or Clark County, Illinois. Fund was established before 1900. However, bank that fund was at could have failed in the Great Depression. Also, my Great Aunt Muriel Tippett in the 1970's was instrumental in obtaining some type of funding from government (do not know if state, local, or federal) for at least an annual cleanup..."

David Parker stopped at the bank in Westfield and they would not look to see if there were records of any such account.

The original cemetery deed describes a rectangle but current maps show the cemetery as a much larger irregular shape suggesting that there was an addition some time in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

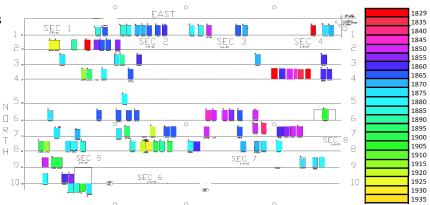


Illustration 5: Age distribution of graves by death date overlaid on map by David P. Parker.

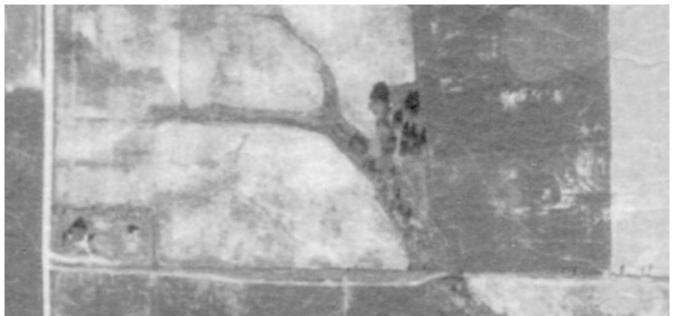
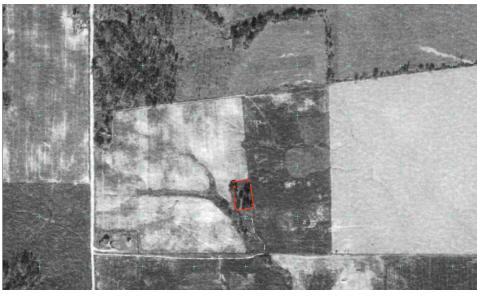


Illustration 6: Aerial photo of the cemetery. Illinois Natural Resources Geospatial Data Clearinghouse, Illinois State Geological Survey, http://www.isgs.uiuc.edu/nsdihome/ (October 25th, 1938; accessed February 2nd, 2022).



Dr. Di Naso remarks on the 1938 photograph, "Looks as if there was an east to west path that gave access to the fields east of the farmhouse, as well as the cemetery. The path from the access road, thence north to the cemetery, is plainly visible. Farmers generally build their access roads along the property line (if they own adjacent parcel aliquot), or along their side of their property line. The pathway looks mildly sinuous, is not

running parallel to the parcel boundary, and deflects to the north in the direction of the cemetery as it approaches. My assumption is that it may be reminiscent of [the?] an original access route from county road N 2420 E to the east. I'm wondering if there wasn't a small footbridge at one time to navigate the narrow drainageway although it may not have been necessary.

"One can see that the eastern boundary of the cemetery is more or less orientated (note fence line in red) parallel to the adjacent land parcel."

#### Similar Cemeteries

Two other cemeteries are sometimes called "Parker Cemetery" in Coles County. The first was located in Charleston and is described by Samuel Sargent as follows. Find-A-Grave calls this the North 12<sup>th</sup> Street Cemetery and places it at Charleston Township, section 11, T12N, R9E.

"Near where the Parker family lived after moving to what is now Charleston, a cemetery was started on the highest rise of the ground at the north edge of the town. Later when the streets were put through this cemetery happened to be in the middle of the street. What markers there were were removed and placed at the side of the street, I have been told. The families around there began using them as stepping stones. When I first learned of this twenty years ago I made every kind of effort I knew of to locate some of these stones, but failed. Some old timers told me they had seen them around houses there, but a reward failed to bring any to light."

The article the above was undated, but Samuel was writing his book somewhere around 1940's and 1950's although some of his collections predate that. Find-A-Grave shows that a pair of stones from this cemetery were later located.

The second Parker cemetery is described on Find-A-Grave as containing the family of Nathaniel Parker "Located about one half mile north of the east gate of the fairgrounds in Charleston, Illinois." That cemetery is no longer visible.

Although the specific relationship between George Parker and the Parkers of Charleston is not known they have been identified as direct relatives through DNA.

The third cemetery is Good Hope of the Good Hope Baptist Church in Clark County is within site of the Parker Cemetery in Hutton Township and also contains the families of several of George Parker's neighbors and siblings. Samuel Sargent states that Samuel Parker deeded the land for the Good Hope Church and cemetery.

SAMUEL PARKER, was probably not a son of George Parker Sr., who settled in Hutton Twp. There was a Samuel Parker who had entered land in Clark Co. Ill., and off whose land the site of Good Hope Church was taken in 1836, according to the Church minutes. He was a member of the Church and was received by letter April 2, 1836, with Susanna Parker. He attended Good Hope Church as late as May 16, 1846.

That church became the Baptist church in Westfield. The church has transferred the deed for the Good Hope cemetery to the Clark County trustee.

Finally, George Parker's parents and siblings first settled in Crawford County, Illinois, and many of the Parker relations are buried in that county.

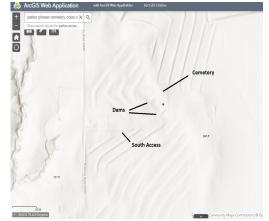
### Access

The original access was on the South as illustrated by David Paul Parker and Dr. Steven M. Di Naso in his 2015 presentation. During the presentation, David Paul Parker pointed to what he indicated was a wagon accessible trail or road along the south edge of the cemetery,



Illustration 7: David Paul Parker points out original trail on south edge of the cemetery.

Dr. Di Naso also pointed out a dams or berms on the south edge of the cemetery that is also present on the ArcGIS map. Dr. Di Naso states "these were constructed perpendicular to the direction of flow within the swale running NW to SE. and along the western flank of the cemetery. Together with the grass filter strips and terracing visible in aerial photographs, these structures are unquestionably associated with the grower's soil management practices and nothing more. They're formally known as low-head dams or weirs. They were constructed to regulate the flow of water along the drainage and help mitigate erosion and soil loss."



*Illustration 8: ArcGIS map where a trail is evident on the South edge* 

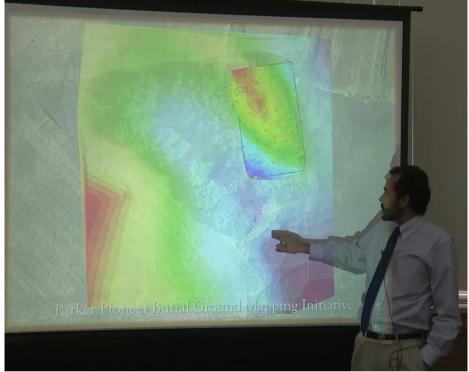
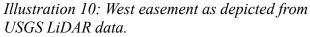


Illustration 9: Dr. Di Naso points out a dam feature on the South edge of the cemetery.

Later access was moved to the west and is possibly an easement that starts at N County Road 2420 E and ran along an east/west across the north drainage toward the cemetery. Some time after 1997 Fred McVey, the farmer that owned the surrounding fields, plowed that access and use of the west access is no longer possible.



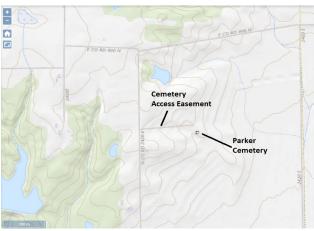




Illustration 11: Stacy Hintz with previous cemetery access marker, Memorial weekend 1997. Facing SE from the far west side of the field. Garland was placed by Stacy.

During the 2014 restoration the current property owner agreed to grant access along the erosion berms running from the north via East County Road 400 N into the east edge of the cemetery. The current access is not marked with signage and isn't mowed regularly, but it can be driven and space is available to park on the cemetery embankment.



Illustration 12: Current access path - graphic care of Dr. Di Naso.

### Topography

Dr. Di Naso and his students collected all of the data at the cemetery related to the planimetrics in this publication (trees, fence lines, topography, EMI grids, etc.). All of the maps that Dr. S. Di Naso provided were created by him, including the headstone maps. The intent was to conduct an EMI survey of subsurface objects.

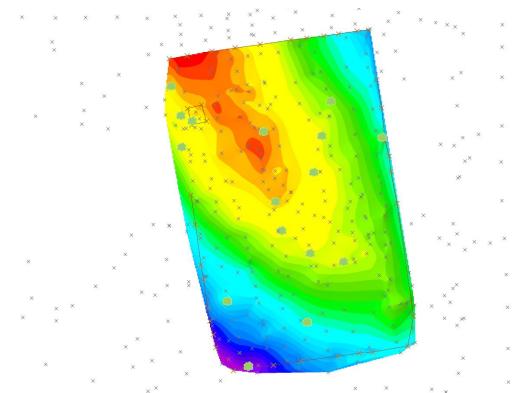
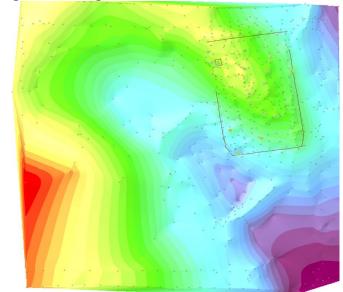


Illustration 13: Topography compiled by Dr. Di Naso showing trees and elevation. The 'x's denote points where measurements were taken.

Dr. Di Naso states "A side note on the 'dam' that I mentioned in my lecture all those years ago; there are actually two of these. These were constructed perpendicular to the direction of flow within the swale running NW to SE. and along the western flank of the cemetery. Together with the grass filter strips and terracing visible in aerial photographs, these structures are unquestionably associated with the grower's soil management practices and nothing more. They're formally known as low-head dams or weirs. They were constructed to

Illustration 14: Topography compiled by Dr. Di Naso showing surrounding elevation.



regulate the flow of water along the drainage and help mitigate erosion and soil loss."

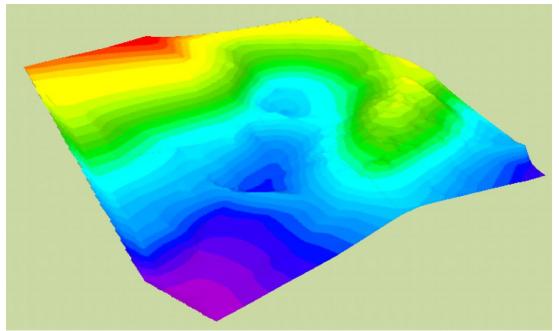


Illustration 15: 3D elevation rendered by Dr. Di Naso clearly showing a pair of dams or weirs.

### **Headstone Surveys**

The first documented attempt to inventory of the cemetery states it was conducted July 1970 by Henry A. Tippett, Glenna Ruth (Tippett) Mullen (granddaughter of Henry A. Tippett), Ollie Heddin Hutton, Charles "Bud" Hutton, the son of Ollie Hutton. Their survey consisted of an alphabetical list of names, annotated, gathered directly from the stones in the cemetery. Some of the names on the list may have been acquired from documentation rather from a reading of a stone.

In September 1997 Tom Hintz converted this type written survey into text and made it available via the USGenWeb.org archives care of Pam Reid with the work's attribution going to Glenna.

Coles County Genealogical Society published The Prairie Sleeps, Volume 3, in 1994 containing a survey.

Another survey was performed by David Paul Parker starting about 2005 and continuing over numerous visits through 2014. David says he divided the cemetery into sections and used a measuring tape to find the position of stones. In addition, he used a witching rod to locate unmarked graves and place bricks and pavers like those shown in the photos for field stones A and C. A version of David's survey is included at the end of this document.

A survey was performed in 2015 by Dr. Steven M. Di Naso of Eastern Illinois University. This work was voluntary and part of a class he taught under the 2015 EIU Catalog entitled GEG 3850. A map of headstones they created was a compilation of the data provided by Coles County that the class incorporated into their maps. This survey conducted on October 24, 2014 and November 1, 2014.



Illustration 16: EIU survey team Steve, Darrell, ?, Ali -- -- Lahn Henn, Grant Woods, ?, Lauren, Shaun. 13



Illustration 17: EIU students with Dr. Steve Di Naso and Vince.

Dr. Harvey Henson at SIU was given grant funds in the amount of \$600 for EMI work. This work was not completed.

### Restoration

A photo on Find-A-Grave for Anna (Doty) Parker taken by Shirley I Shawver Nees and posted on 28 Jun 2011 states "Abt 1980, our genealogy society cleaned it [the cemetery] up along with some others."

Shirley further commented, "I took the picture in 1967. I went to about 3/4 of our cemeteries then and they all looked like that."

When Tom and Stacy Hintz visited the area in 1997 they stopped at the court houses and local genealogy libraries. On one of these visits they asked directions to the cemetery to locate the two stones Sargent recorded as marking the location of George and his first wife. The story was told that one of the Cox boys had sought to restore the cemetery by himself. Unfortunately he suffered a heart attack near the fence line.

At that time the cemetery was wild with tall grass, lilies and yucca. This suggested that it had been long years since any maintenance. In the center of the cemetery trees had been felled across the marble stones at least a season or so prior.

Illustration 18: 1967 by Shirley I Shawver Nees



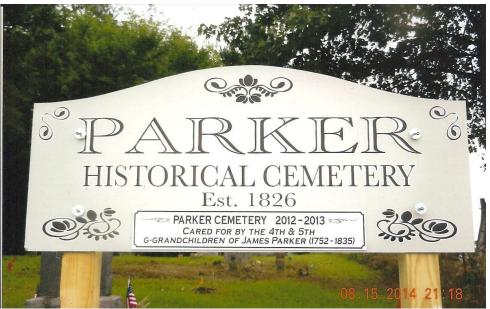
Illustration 19: Spring 1997, facing southeast from the northwest gate. Photo by Tom Hintz.

Illustration 20: About 2013.

At some time in the

cemetery's past, a fence was erected to keep the livestock out. In 2005, David Paul Parker and others set out to restore and preserve the cemetery with the help of a local Boy Scout troupe under the guidance of Jamie Foreman, and they removed the wire but left the fence posts standing. It is unlikely that the fence represented an accurate boundary of the cemetery but it is physical evidence of its approximate dimensions.

Years later in a conversation with James David Parker about the state in which they found the cemetery he described fast growing sassafras trees of significant size. There were no such trees in 1997, which suggests that visit was not long after Mr. Cox had made his effort.



*Illustration 21: New sign on northeast by David's son. Photo by David Paul Parker.* 

The sign that marked the northwest access has been moved to the northwest gate.



*Illustration 22: 2014 the original sign re-positioned at the northwest gate. Photo David Paul Parker.* 

Illustration 23: David Parker, Martin Parker and James & Chris Parker.



Illustration 24: David, Martin, James and Chris Parker.



Illustration 25: David Parker's son with stump grinder.

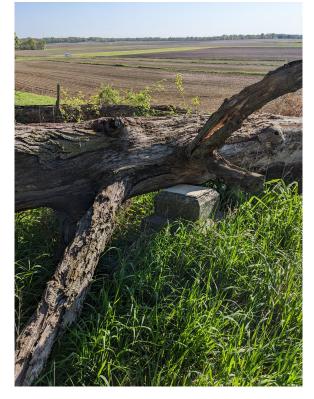




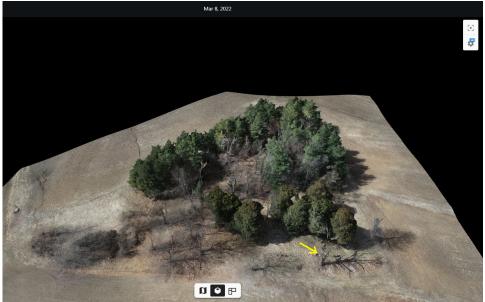
An open house was held at the cemetery following the 2014 cleanup.

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Tom and Stacy Hintz paid a visit to photograph field stones in and around the cemetery. They discovered that the dead tree located at the north east had fallen into the cemetery knocking down stones. Within the cemetery there were also major branches fallen from the cedar tree located adjacent to John A. Parker's stone.





In late Winter of 2022, Dr. Steven Di Naso flew drones around the cemetery and compiled those photos into 3D pictures from several angles using photogrammetry. These pictures are included below. Notice the dead tree from the previous 2 photos was still standing at that time.



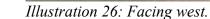




Illustration 27: Facing east.

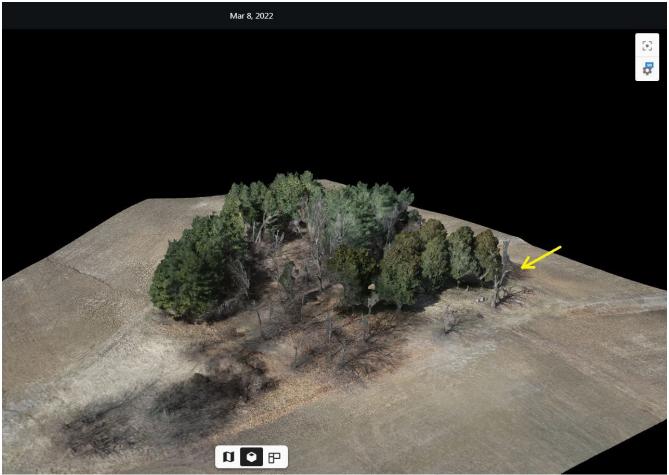


Illustration 28: Facing northwest.

### **Field Stone Markers**

Since the cemetery is glacial, any of the field stones found in and around the cemetery could be natural. However, if the stones are large and on the surface and in rows then there would seem to be good cause to assume they were used as markers and a number of historical comments state that certain burials are marked with a field stone. The following graphic provides an inventory of the following stones.

A. This stone is on the south side of the iron fenced enclosure and appears within a row of monuments.

B. Stone is located directly to the south of A in the row.

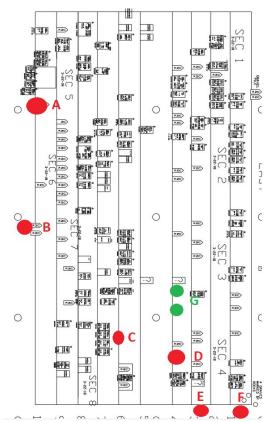
C. This stone is perhaps larger.

D. A stone located between the monument for Harriet Austin and directly inline with the tree and stones identified by Samuel Sargent belonging to George and his wife, Sarah. A possible depression for a grave was observed on the east side of this stone with the stone centered at the head.

E. Stone is about the same size as A, B and D, but located just outside the cemetery boundary next to a tree.

F. A very large stone mostly below grade. Two grapefruit-sized stones are along the old fence line to either side above grade such that they might not have been there long.

G. This is the pair of field stones that Samuel Sargent reports were placed by J. A. L. Parker. The stones are gone.



The following photos of the field stones were all taken May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by Tom and Stacy Hintz.

David Paul Parker and his wife noted the discovery of a large field stone roughly at the center of the cemetery, or possibly on the south between rows, with just the tip showing. This might be stone C. David says his granddaughter saw this and asked about it so they explored around the stone and determined it was a large field stone. Carolyn S. had an archaeologist perform a shallow excavation to the base of the stone. They noted a change in soil color and David says there were 4 fist sized stones around it in a rectangle at 3 foot distance, evidence that it could be a grave.

In addition, people have noted there are small stones in a collection inside the cemetery at its southeast fence post, and larger stones outside the cemetery at that same post G. While these could be glacial material or markers that were removed from the cemetery or the adjacent farm field, David suggests that these mark graves.



Illustration 29: Stone C.

The larger of the stones found outside the corner of the southeast, directly at the fence post, is almost certainly the stone marker mentioned in the legal description of the 1843 deed.



*Illustration 31: Cemetery legal boundary marker stone F.* 



*Illustration 30: Cemetery legal boundary marker stone F.* 

Accounts describe not less than three large stones marking graves on the south side of the cemetery. Only two are noted at this time within the fence line and a third is documented just to the outside on the south near the marker for Harriet Austin, not counting the stone described by the 1843 deed. The cemetery is surrounded on south and west sides by woods with dense undergrowth that could hide additional stones.



Illustration 32: Stone A.





There is evidence on the southeast quadrant of the cemetery that people have had fires in that location. One possible reason that the stones are not found where documented is that either someone moved them during a cleanup, or campers cleared space by moving the stones.

Samuel Sargent drew a map showing the location of rocks G that should have marked George Parker and his wives. Tom recalls seeing the stone D on the southeast near Harriet Austin's memorial during the visit in 1997 but not the stones reported by Sargent. The stones were moved some time between Samuel Sargent's observations in 1949 and Tom and Stacy's visit in 1997.



*Illustration 34: Stone D facing north along the row.* 



*Illustration 35: Closeup of stone D.* 

The tree noted in Samuel Sargent's map for George and Sarah Parker is at the top of illustration 34, and the marker placed by Adams Memorials can be seen just to the south and east in the photo. Notice the memorial is skewed. They may have been lining it up between the tree and the memorials in the next

row to the east.

### Parkers

The oldest Parker graves are not marked with memorials. However, in 1949 Samuel Sargent walked the cemetery with the great grandson of James and Anna, John A L Parker. John told Samuel that he had placed a cement block to mark the grave of one grandmother, and rocks to mark his grandfather and his other grandmother.

The following paragraphs discuss the possible location of these family members. The conclusion drawn here is that the main group of older Parker graves is located in the same row as Harriet Austin according to the map drawn by Mr. Sargent, and the cement block is the grave of Sarah (Bonser) Parker.

### James and Anna (Doty) Parker

Both James and Anna are reported to have died at the home of George Parker a short distance from this cemetery and some accounts state they are buried there. These are the parents of George Sr. Anna died in October of 1830, and James died 1835. Katherine Jane Brown gives this account of their burials in her book, Parker Pathways.

"She [Anna] died in Coles Co., at the home of son George David (4) on 12 October 1830, at age 64 y. 10 mo. She is buried in the Parker Cemetery near Westfield, Clark<sup>4</sup> Co., Illinois. Only a field stone marks her grave."

Katherine goes on to say,

"Mrs. Lydia E. Doty, granddaughter of James Mercer Parker (5) said in 1945 that James (1) is buried in Parker Cemetery in Clark Co., Illinois, not beside Anna, but on the other side of the cemetery. Again, she says only a field stone marks her grave. There are some in Crawford Co., Illinois who say James (1) did not return to Coles Co., but died in 1835 in Crawford Co., and is buried between the two wives of Johnathan (1) in Jones Cemetery, no stone to mark his grave."

No field stones are documented on the north side of the cemetery. Possibly Mrs. Doty is confusing the location of George's wife, Sarah, with that of Anna.

Samuel documents an interview with George N. Parker. George Newman Parker, 1843 – 1925, was the grandson of James Parker's son Johnathan P. Parker. That interview states,

"George N. Parker, lawyer stated in his sketch that James Parker Sr. who would have been his great grandfather was buried in the Parker Cemetery Hutton township. That his grave is on the south side of the cemetery, without a monument, that there is a large rock marking the grave."

James and Anna died less than 5 years apart. If both died at their son's house in Coles County it is quite likely they were buried near each other. Indeed, there is a rock located a few feet north of Harriet Austin's marker. Assuming that rock has not been moved from elsewhere it is a prime candidate to be the marker for James and Anna.

<sup>4</sup> The cemetery is actually in Coles Co., Illinois.

### Cement Block

A common confusion is who is buried next to George Sr., his wife Sarah or his other wife Sarah, and who is buried on the opposite side of the cemetery with a cement block to mark her grave. The cement marker was placed by John A. L. Parker to assist finding his grandmother's small, plain marble marker.

An assumption has sometimes been made that John A. L. Parker meant he had placed the cement block to mark his paternal grandmother, Sarah Jane (Allen). However, we all have 2 grandmothers so this marker could be either his paternal grandmother Sarah Jane (Allen), or it could be Sarah "Sally" (Shoemaker nee Bonser), his maternal grandmother.

Katherine Jane Brown's book, Parker Pathways, recounts the cement block story. She appears to have obtained that information from Samuel Sargent. The Sargent Papers located at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum have a letter from Katherine asking for help writing her book and she cites his papers as one source.



Illustration 36: Cement block, just visible.

Katherine says,

"She [Sarah (nee Bonser) Parker] is buried just a short distance southwest of the large monument of Burgess Berkley, next row – and has a concrete block to mark her grave— no inscription."

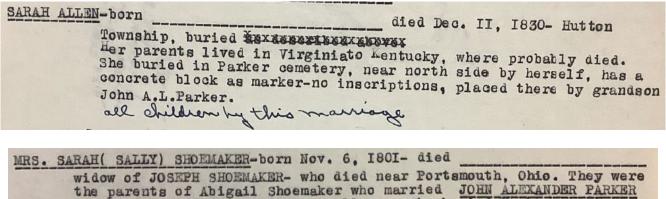
The Burgess Berkley monument is on the north edge of the cemetery just east of the center and the cement block is on the north central area. Katherine goes on to say,

"John (1844) and Abigail had children, their names are no known to me at this time. The had a grandson, John Alexander Logan [Parker], who placed a monument of a plain cement block for his grandmother's grave. There is no inscription on the stone in the Parker Cemetery."



Illustration 37: Photo of cement block by David Paul Parker, 2014, with original marble marker stacked above.

Samuel Sargent is mostly consistent with these statements, but a couple pages do contradict the balance of his writings and reverse the positions of Sarah (Bonser) and Sarah (Allen) in the cemetery. An example is illustrated below. The second reference is more refined and assume a later revision of the first.



the parents of Abigail Shoemaker who married JOHN ALEXANDER PARKER son of George Parker and Sarah Allen. She buried Parker cemetery a short distance south west of the large monument of Burgess Berkley, next row- has a concrete block for marker no inscriptions, placed there by John A.L.Parker her grandson. She died at the home of John Alexander Parker's near the grave yard.

#### Elizabeth Parker

Elizabeth (Preston, widow of Thomas Flint), George's 2<sup>nd</sup> wife, died some time after she co-signed the 1843 deed for the Parker Cemetery, but before George is recorded marrying again in 1849. Samuel Sargent places Elizabeth and her child next to George, so George, Sarah (Allen) and Elizabeth are buried together but specifically in what position is not known.

```
Mrs. Elizabeth Flint- widow of Thomas Flint, who were the parents of Mary
J. Flint who married David Allen Parker March 29, 1837.
buried with husband George Parker- no marker.
```

Elizabeth's daughter, Mary Jane Flint, married David Allen Parker.

#### George Parker

The map Samuel provides indicates there are two stones marking the four graves noted above of George, Sarah (Allen), Elizabeth and a child of Elizabeth and George. He says these stones were placed by John A L Parker. Unfortunately these two field stones have been moved. The monuments and tree used as guides remain.

Its important to recall that Sarah (Allen) died only a few weeks after her mother in law, Anna. They would likely have been buried near each other. If the Sargent map represents the location of Sarah then Anna is somewhere close and in the same row one presumes.

James died 5 years after Anna and Sarah. If he is buried in this cemetery then once again it is easy to assume he is near to the same location and in the same row. Few burials have occurred by the time of his death so it seems there is little reason to believe that the graves would have been separated. As previously noted the cemetery is arranged roughly into family groups. Thue 7, 1949. With Mr. John A. L. Parker today we visited the flat placed at the head of his granifather and grandmother "comperator and placed at the head of his granifather and grandmother "comperator and placed at the head of his granifather and grandmother "comperator and placed at the head of his granifather and grandmother "comperator and placed at the head of his granifather and grandmother "comperator and placed at the head of his granifather and grandmother "comperator and placed at the head of his granifather and grandmother "comperator and the set of the set of the grand set of the location of his grandmother present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come. Which grave is which he did not know, but we present to come is the senter of the grave is the did not know, but we present to come is the senter of the grave is the did not know, but we present to come is the senter of the grave is the did not know, but we present to come is the senter of the grave is the did not know, but we present to come is the senter of the grave is the senter of the grave is the did not know is

*Illustration 38: Samuel Sargent's map to George and Sarah Parker – Note: south is at the top.* 



*Illustration 39: ArcGIS satellite image of cemetery with annotations showing correlations to Sargent's map.* 

In Fall of 2021, Tom and Stacy Hintz contracted with Adams Memorials in Charleston, Illinois, to mark the former location of the field stones with an actual memorial. The memorial was placed in August of 2022 and Adams Memorials supplied the following photograph of their work.



Illustration 40: Courtesy of Adams Memorials

It is difficult to say where George and Sarah's rocks were moved. There are three free-standing rocks in the cemetery that match the description. A fourth rock is located at the central west row.

Within the row there is a large field stone positioned as a possible marker between the marker for Harriet and the two stones noted in the map. This may be the marker for James Parker described by George N. Parker, or it may have been moved here and originally marked George and Sarah.

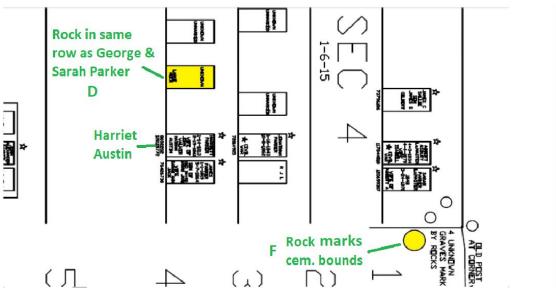


Illustration 41: South East corner documented by David Paul Parker showing location of two large rocks (yellow).

The other two free-standing stones are down hill directly to the south and to the west. One is just outside the cemetery fence askew of the row on the south. The other is tucked narrowly between two marble stones down the hill on the southwest. One or both of these could be the missing stones for George and Sarah.

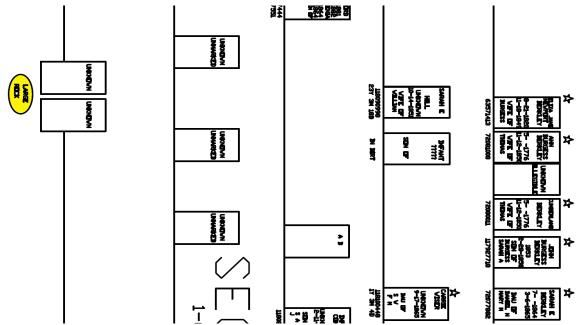
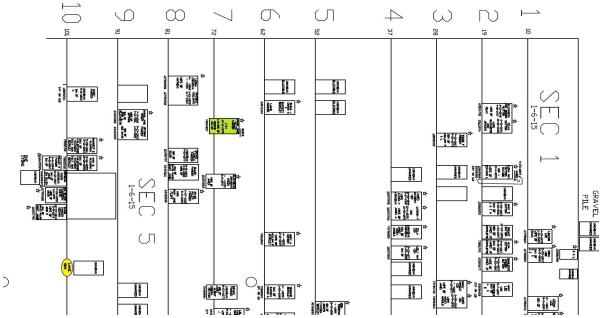


Illustration 42: David Paul Parker's documentation for the west side showing rock (B) (yellow) down hill from Sarah and George.



*Illustration 43: David Paul Parker's documentation for the north end showing cement block (green) and another rock (yellow) (A)* 

David Paul Parker also documents a rock (A) on the far west edge, about the center of that edge. This rock is identified in illustration 43, above.

### Anna E. Parker

This is a tall marble marker at the northwest corner, 2<sup>nd</sup> row counting from the west and possibly the first grave on the north side of that row. This one is a puzzle because only the north face partially readable. The other faces are unmarked or eroded so as to eliminate all markings. The monument has a finial lying at the west edge of the base between it and a small stone marked A E P.

This is Jephthah and Sarah Jane Parker's daughter marked on the north face but the initials of the parents are hard to make out. Jephthah's family burial plot is the next large memorial on the south side of Anna's.

The monument is presumably shared, or was intended to be shared, or Anna's inscription would have been located on the west like other stones. The south and west faces are on the lee of the stone protected from weather so a lack of inscription on those faces indicates there never was one. The west face is full into the prevailing weather and could have once



*Illustration 44: Anna E. Parker memorial showing the north face.* 

contained an inscription. This marker could represent two burials: Anna E. and someone else.



Illustration 45: Photogrammetry of stone's north face.

The inscription<sup>5</sup> reads "Anna E., Dau Of, J. & S J., PARKER, Died, Sept 2 1854, unreadable". Anna died as an infant in the same year she was born. Other infant memorials are modest in comparison, which again suggests that this memorial was shared or intended to be shared.

<sup>5</sup> Photogrammetry is a process of taking photos from multiple angles and mathematically combining them to produce a 3D image. This process is non-invasive and more successful than rubbings for highly worn stones.

## **Credits and Copyright**

#### Copyright 2023 Tom and Stacy Hintz

Permission is hereby granted, free of charge, to any person obtaining a copy of this document (the "Document"), to deal in the Document without restriction, including without limitation the rights to use, copy, modify, merge, publish, distribute, sublicense, and/or sell copies of the Document, and to permit persons to whom the Document is furnished to do so, subject to the following conditions:

The above copyright notice and this permission notice shall be included in all copies or substantial portions of the Document.

THE DOCUMENT IS PROVIDED "AS IS", WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND NONINFRINGEMENT. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE AUTHORS OR COPYRIGHT HOLDERS BE LIABLE FOR ANY CLAIM, DAMAGES OR OTHER LIABILITY, WHETHER IN AN ACTION OF CONTRACT, TORT OR OTHERWISE, ARISING FROM, OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE DOCUMENT OR THE USE OR OTHER DEALINGS IN THE DOCUMENT.

- 1. Dr. Di Naso's maps and data used by permission.
- 2. David Paul Parker's photos and maps used by permission.
- 3. Photo by Shirley I. Shawver Nees used by permission.
- 4. Sargent Papers by permission of The Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum, Springfield, Illinois.
- 5. USGS LiDAR images, Map services and data available from U.S. Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program. Map services and data downloaded from The National Map are free and in the public domain. There are no restrictions.
- 6. Photograph of George and Sarah Parker's memorial Copyright 2022, Adam's Memorials, used by permission under the terms of this document's copyright.

### Appendix – Cemetery Map by David Paul Parker

Author's note:

I never met David in person but we began corresponding in 2008, and in 2014 he told me he had been making visits to the cemetery with a tape measure. He blocked off sections of the cemetery and plotted the location of each stone by hand in a computer aided drawing (CAD) software package. David continued to correct and update the drawings until he passed in Spring of 2022.

The overview drawing included here was dated July 30, 2018, and the smaller sections are dated August and September of 2017. David probably shared these versions with me about February 2022 when I asked for his permission to include the drawings under the terms of this document's copyright.

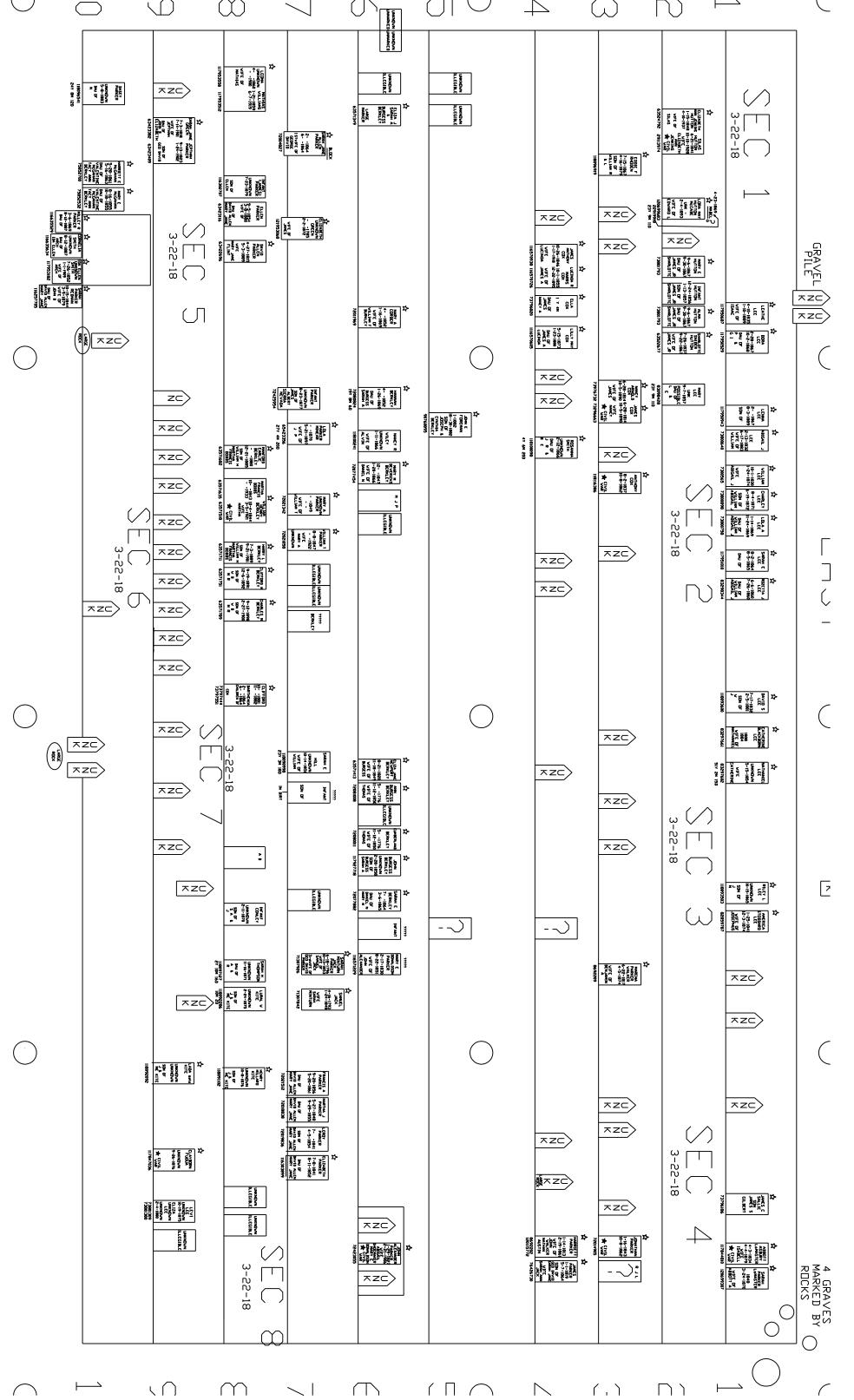
I spoke with David just weeks before he passed. During that conversation he told me he had more changes to share but he was not able to send them. Still, at the time of this writing his maps provide the most accurate location of the memorials in the Parker Pioneer Cemetery.

# Graves Not Found

INFANT BERKLEY 1-13-1866 1-13-1866 SON OF DANIEL M MARY M 72078783	SARAH APPLEGATE BERKLEY 9 1816 1-8-1890 WIFE DF BURGESS 72079634	MULLIAM F BERKLEY 4-9-1808 5-25-1870 VIFE HARRIET DENNIS MARY A CORDER 72011597	ARRIET UNK BERKLEY 5-18-1811 2-20-1888 VIFE OF VILLIAM F BERKLEY VILLIAM NEWLIN 72012105	MDRINDA A BERKLEY UNKNDWN 3-11-1863 DAU DF E E S F 3M 11D	UNKNDWN 10-18-1889 SON DF WILLIAM SARAH M	DAISEY GILBERT UNKNDWN 10-7-1878 DAU DF 118090912	FUREMAN         ME           11-12-1879         MI           1-24-1880         UNI           SUN UF         5-7           JUSEPH         CYNTHIA           BERKLEY         90761222	ZETTA JDRELL KNDWN -1854 ELIZABETH UNK FLINT UNKNUWN UNKNUWN WIFE OF JAMES 2NDWIFE OF GEORGE DAVID 117483984 10M 22D
BUNSER PARKER         C           11-6-1801         6-          1875         8-2           4thWIFE         DF           GEDRGE         WIL           DAVID         M	PARKER PA -1872 5-1 23-1877 SC JN OF JAN LLIAM T A RY A N	YA RKER         PA           21-1878         3-18           8-1879         4           8-1879         4           IN DF         ARA           LBERT         ELL           ERA         SARA           426200         SARA           7200         200	IRKER         SHII           -1785         PA           -1862         PA           Jacobia         S-26           MIVES         3-22           AH J         -           LLEN         ZABETH           VINT         Jah           RAH A         Jah           RAH A         Jah	PAF           RKER         PAF           24-1837         30-3           1880         3-3           FE DF         WIF           IN         WIF           XANDER         DAVI	LINT" JA RKER 5-2 30-1819 VI 7-1861 JAME JDHN BR E DF IVAS ID ALLEN TA	ARKER 7-1819 1 i1887 1 IFE DF 1 S (1819) ( YANT U UN YANT U UN	NNA DOTY PARKER 21765 0-12-1830 SRAVE NLOCATED VIFE OF JAMES 11311847 113118	KER PÄRKER 752 UNKNDWN 335 8-22-1831 E ATED C WIFE DF DDTY JDHN J
	NFANT LEE UNKNDWN 1-3-1857 SDN OF WILLIAM ABIGAIL 83298305	INFANT LEE UNKNDWN 2-10-1836 SON OF NATHANIEL CATHERINE 83297692	LEVI LEE UNKNDWN 2-2-1836 SON OF NATHANIEL CATHERINE 83298136 11M 13D	LEVITE LEE UNKNDWN 5-7-1856 SDN DF L & E 83298436 6Y 8M 14D	LULA LEE UNKNDWN 11-24-1865 DAU DF WILLIAM ABIGAIL 83298214 11M 10D	NATHIEL LEE 5-9-1865 SON OF WILLIAM ABIGAIL 85298182 1M 6D	DR VALENTINE McGAHAN 3-13-1836 41872 WIFE TACY ANN BERKLEY 115771936	

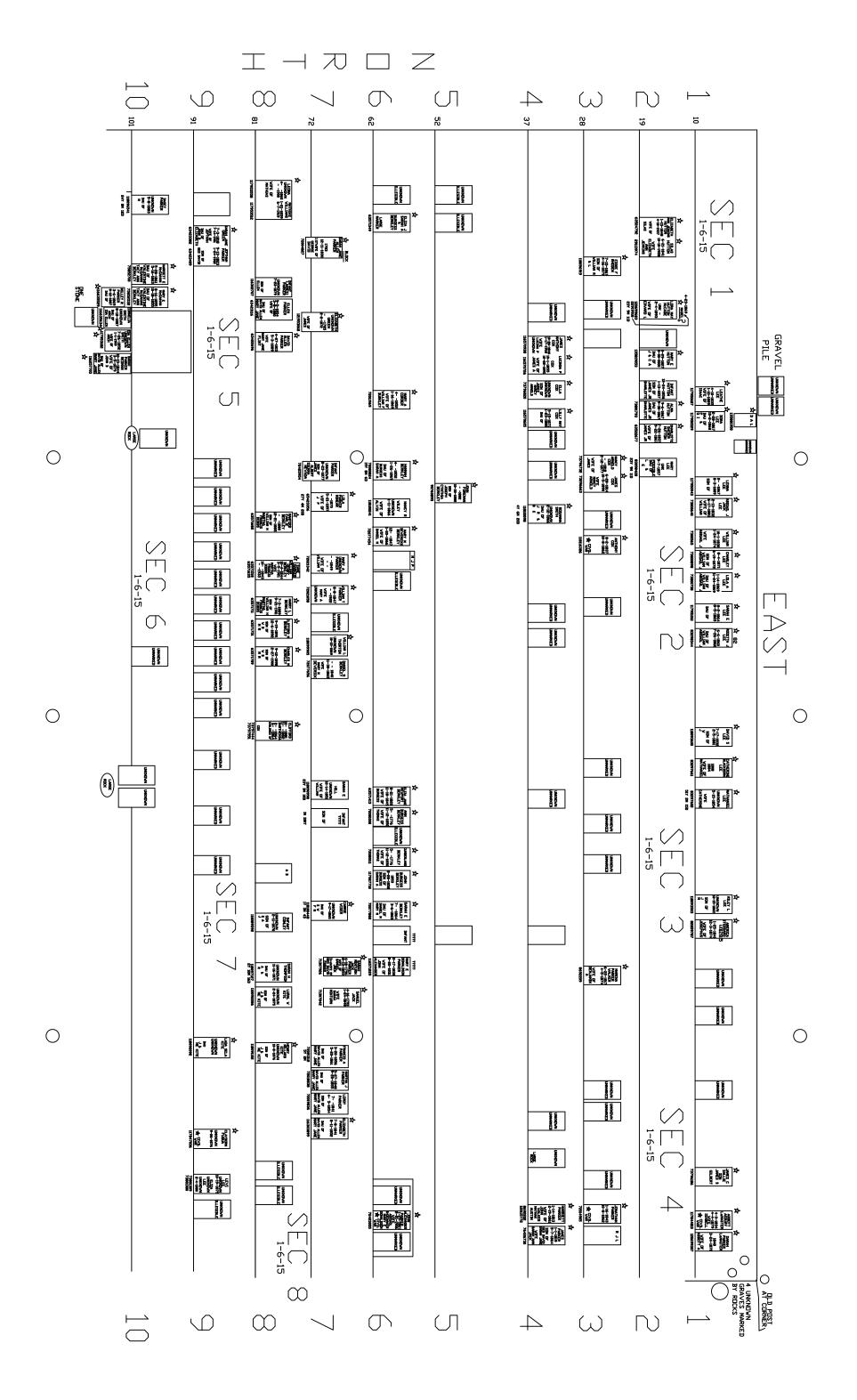
JOHN WALKER	SYLVESTER LEE	INFANT HUTTON	JAMES HUTTON	JAMES JR HUTTON	PHILLIP BERNICE HUTTON
UNKNEWN		3-11-1870	4-5-1805	91832	11-14-1853

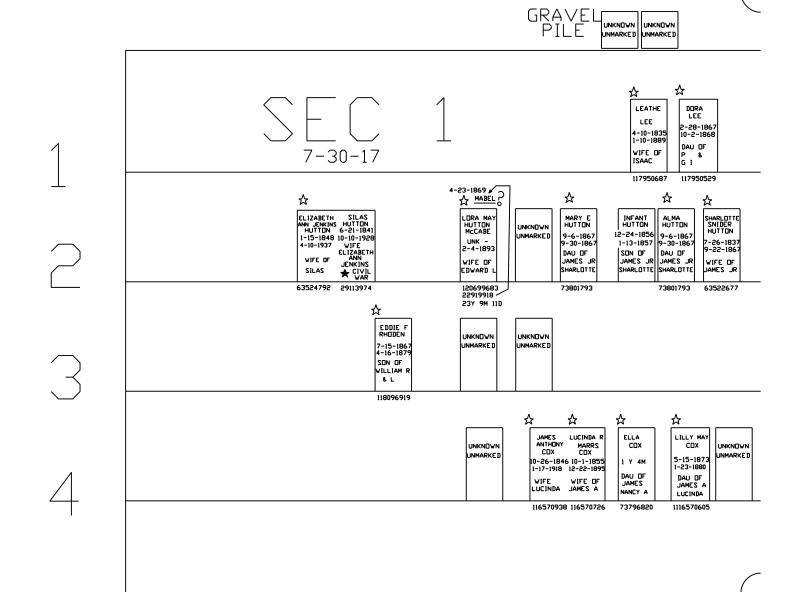
UNKNDWN	UNKN⊡WN UNKN⊡WN	4-12-1870	9-27-1872		2-3-1916	
WIFE HARRIET PARKER		SON OF SILAS ELIZ, ANN		WIFE SHARLOTTE	WIFE MARY E SISK	
8692188		63525`169	25573999	63522628	29113958	



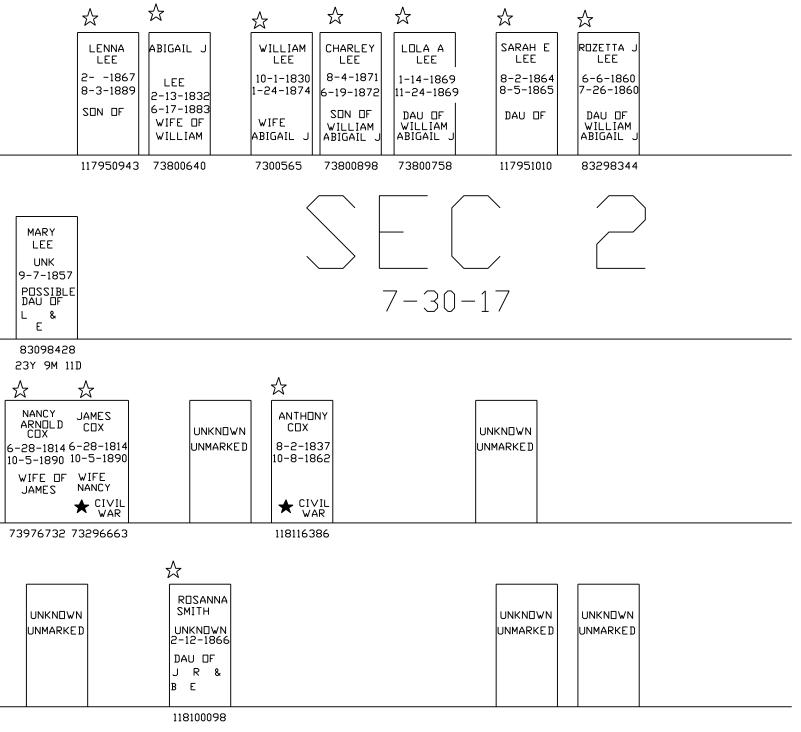
 $\vdash$  $\langle \cap$  $( \square \bigcirc$  $\frown$  $\overline{\phantom{a}}$  |  $\square$ 

 $\Box )$ 



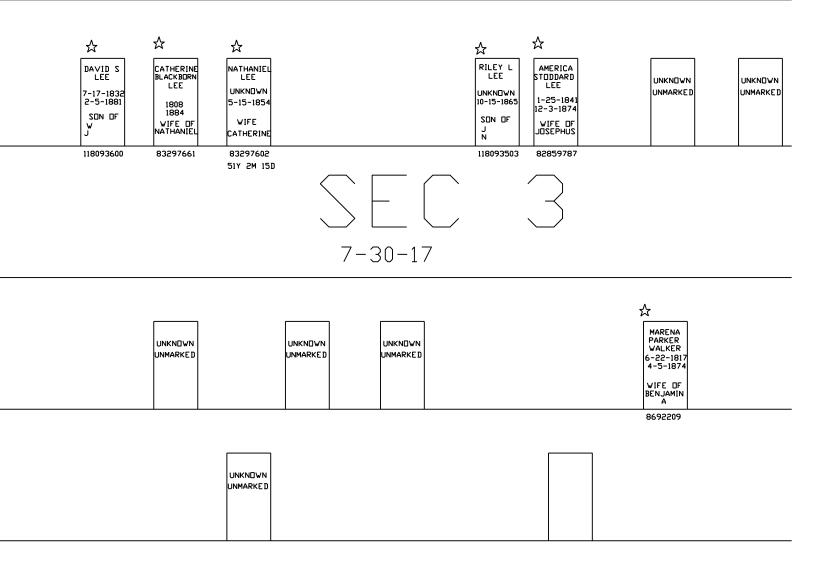


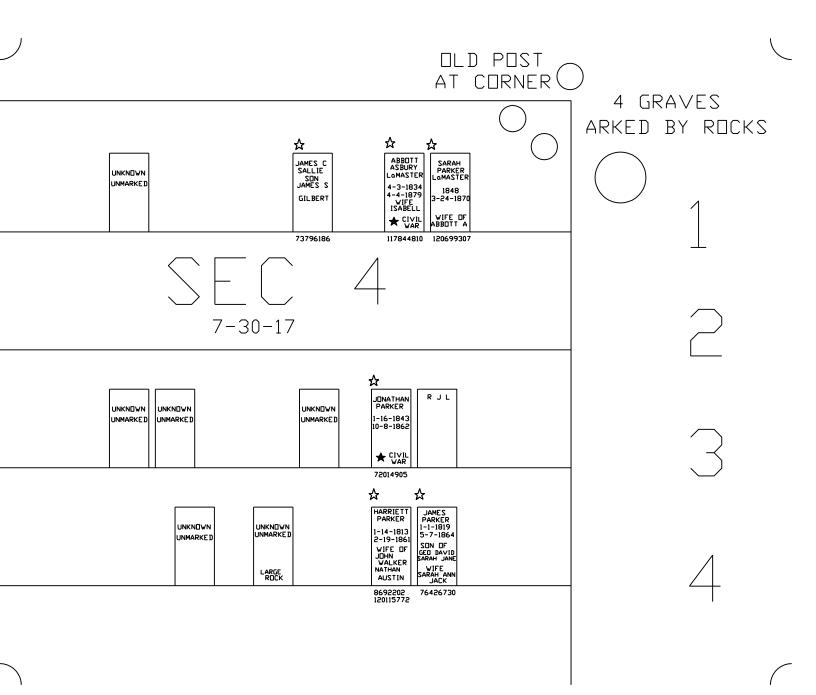


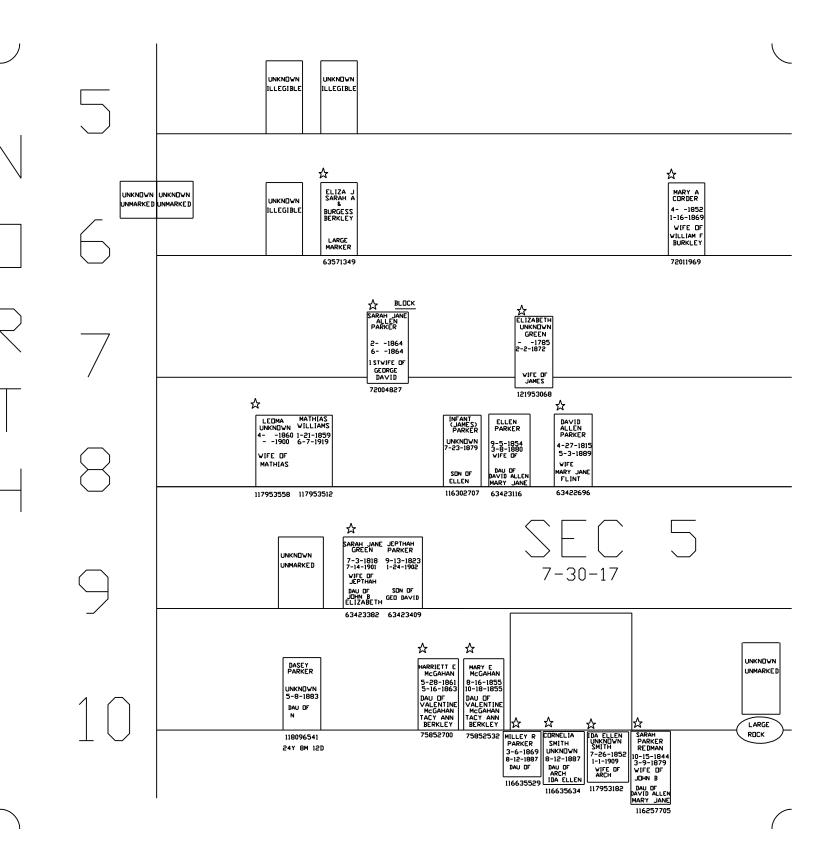


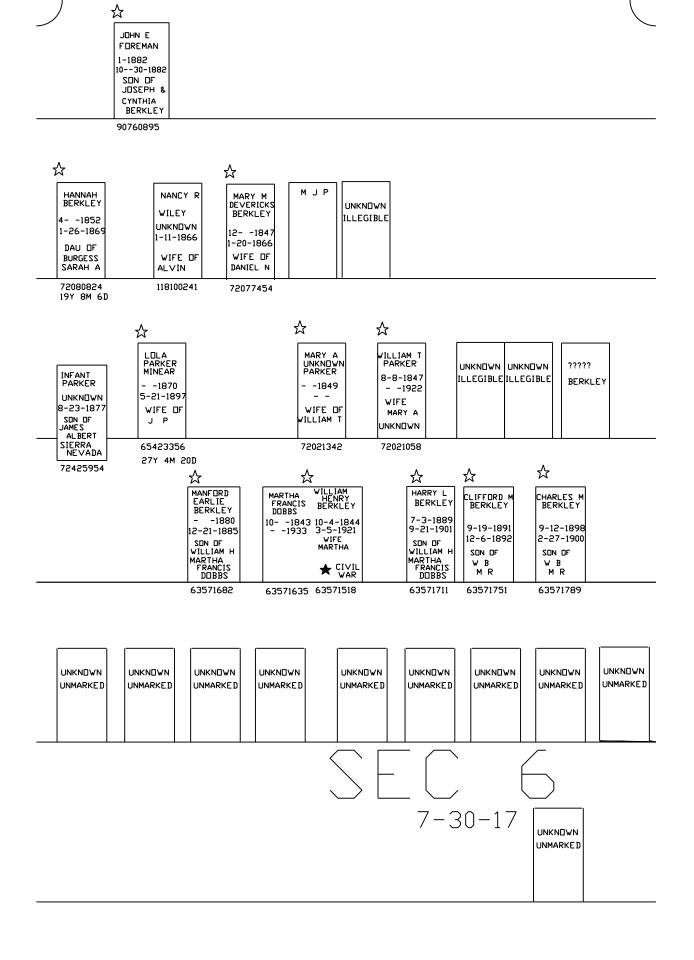
4Y 6M 20D

 $\langle \rangle$ 









/

